

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-50 in the application. In previous responses, the Applicants have amended Claims 1, 8-10, 28, 30, 39, 41, 45 and 49-50 and have added Claims 51-52. No claims have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1-52 are currently pending in the application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-52 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-52 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,112,183 to Swanson, *et al.* (Swanson). The Applicants respectfully disagree since Swanson does not teach or suggest managing data from a plurality of ancillary systems including determining whether data stored in an ancillary system is conducive to being processed into a value of a data item and retrieving data from one of the ancillary system and a data processing system based on the determining. (Claims 1, 21 and 41).

Swanson is directed to processing health care transactions through a common interface in a distributed computing environment. (Column 1, lines 8-12). Swanson teaches a client stub 60 that locates an appropriate server to handle a request. (Column 6, lines 37-38). The Examiner asserts that the server selected to handle the request is the appropriate server and the server that does not service the request is the other processing system as claimed in Claim 1. (Examiner's Final Action, pages 2-3).

In Swanson, however, a client makes a request for a service from a server and a communication interface 22 provides information to the server in a format required by the server to perform the requested service. The communication interface 22 uses the client stubs 60 for providing the information. (Column 5, line 66 to Column 6, line 10, *emphasis added*).

Thus, the appropriate server in Swanson is the server from which the client requested a service. (Column 5, lines 66-67, *emphasis added*). Swanson does not teach or suggest determining whether the requested service of the server is conducive to processing into a value. On the contrary, Swanson determines if a server is the appropriate server that is requested. In other words, Swanson determines if a server is the desired server, not if data on the server is conducive to processing.

Additionally, Swanson does not retrieve data from either the server or a data processing system based on determining if data on the server is conducive to processing. Instead, once the server has been located, the server processes the request and sends back a response. (Column 6, lines 51-65). This is not based on a determination of conduciveness of data on the server but simply if the data is on the server. The Applicants do not find where Swanson retrieves data from either the server or a data processing system based on conduciveness.

Furthermore, Swanson provides no motivation to retrieve data based on a determination of conduciveness since the requested service is only directed to the server. This differs from the data as recited in independent Claims 1, 21 and 41, that is in an ancillary system and a data processing system. Thus in the claimed invention, a determination of conduciveness is made to determine which data to retrieve. In Swanson, a determination of conduciveness is not needed.

In summary, Swanson fails to teach or suggest the invention recited in independent Claims 1, 21 and 41 and Claims dependent thereon. Claims 1-52 are therefore not obvious in view of Swanson. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of Claims 1-52 and allow issuance thereof.

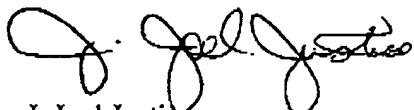
II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-52.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 5/10/04

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